

decision, and you are certainly young enough to enjoy it!

TRIBUTE TO VINCENT FORLENZA

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, Senator HATCH and I join together today to recognize the contributions of Vincent A. Forlenza, chairman, CEO and president of BD, in establishing and leading AdvaMedDx, an important new voice for the role of medical diagnostic tests in patient care.

BD, the leading global medical technology company, has a strong presence in both Maryland and Utah as do other companies in the medical device and diagnostics sectors. We understand firsthand the growing importance of diagnostics to power medical discoveries and transform patient care.

Mr. HATCH. The diagnostics sector spans thousands of different kinds of tests, from blood tests for cholesterol to new genetic tests that identify cancer variants and match patients to the most appropriate drugs. Diagnostic tests facilitate evidence-based medicine, improve quality of care, promote wellness, enable early detection of disease and often reduce overall health care costs.

In short, diagnostics play a critical role in the health care system and are an essential part of quality patient care. While these tests account for only about 2 percent of health care spending, they influence the large majority of the health care decisions made each and every day.

Ms. MIKULSKI. The impact of diagnostics, however, is not always well understood by patients, policymakers and, sometimes, even physicians. In 2010, Mr. Forlenza played an instrumental role in bringing together a group of leading diagnostics manufacturers to form a new trade association, AdvaMedDx, whose core mission is to create an understanding of the role diagnostics play in the health care system and help foster patient access to innovative, safe, and effective tests. Soon after the founding of the AdvaMedDx, Mr. Forlenza assumed the role of chairman of the board of directors, a position he has held for the last 3 years.

Mr. HATCH. During Mr. Forlenza's tenure as chairman, AdvaMedDx doubled the size of its membership and established itself as a credible voice on health care policy in Washington and around the world. Under Mr. Forlenza's leadership, the diagnostic industry has worked with a range of stakeholders to pursue initiatives that aim to reform and modernize the diagnostics regulatory and payment environment in order to keep pace with innovation and the changing health care landscape. AdvaMedDx works not only with Members of Congress and key public health agencies but also with organizations ranging from patient advocacy groups to cancer research societies to the World Health Organization.

Ms. MIKULSKI. As part of its contribution to the policy dialogue,

AdvaMedDx has organized Capitol Hill briefings at which leaders in the field of diagnostics have shared insights and current developments on topics including women's health, cancer diagnostics, antibiotic resistance, and infectious diseases. Just a few weeks ago, AdvaMedDx and the American Association for Cancer Research held a daylong symposium on personalized medicine and companion diagnostics, keynoted by the Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration and the Director of the National Institutes of Health.

Mr. HATCH. AdvaMedDx also has established itself as a global leader, driving collaboration with allied associations in Europe, Canada, Brazil, Japan, and Australia.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. Forlenza has been a tireless champion for the power of diagnostics to promote wellness, improve patient outcomes and advance public health. The success of AdvaMedDx in a few short years is in large measure due to this vision that he brought to the organization.

Mr. HATCH. Congratulations to Vince on his accomplishments during his tenure as AdvaMedDx chairman, and best wishes to AdvaMedDx for many future successes.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING DR. RAY DOLBY

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of Dr. Ray Dolby, a trailblazing engineer, entrepreneur, and pioneer in the field of sound who passed away on September 12, 2013. He was 80 years old.

Born in Portland, OR and raised in the San Francisco Bay area, Ray Dolby was a dedicated tinkerer from a young age, always curious about how things worked. As a high school student, he worked after school for the electronics company Ampex Corporation, playing a key role in developing Quadruplex, the world's first commercially successful video tape recorder, which revolutionized the world of television broadcasting.

After graduating from Stanford University with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering, Ray began a doctoral program in physics at Cambridge University in England, receiving his doctorate in 1961. The next year, his life changed: He met the love of his life, Dagmar, who was also at Cambridge studying as a summer student, and the two married in 1966 and had two beautiful sons, Tom and David.

In search of adventure, Ray spent 2 years traversing India as a technical adviser for the United Nations, working with the Indian Government to establish a new national laboratory focusing on the development of scientific and industrial instruments. Buoyed by his research in India, Dolby returned to England in 1965 and founded Dolby Laboratories, which he moved to San Francisco in 1976.

Throughout his career, Ray Dolby pioneered many of the most significant developments in sound and audio design. Early on, he invented noise-reduction technology that eliminated the hiss that had marred earlier forms of tape recorded sound and in the 1970s introduced Dolby Stereo, which allowed movie studios to record films in multi-channel surround sound. The innovation of surround sound played a pivotal role in allowing theatergoers around the world to enjoy the sound effects in such groundbreaking movies as "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" and "Star Wars" and innumerable other popular films produced in the decades that followed. Since then, Ray Dolby and Dolby Laboratories have pioneered a multitude of technologies in noise reduction, audio and video processing, live sound, and digital cinema, and won multiple Emmys and Academy Awards for their work.

While Ray is often recognized first and foremost for his revolutionary work in the field of sound, he and his wife Dagmar are also known as leaders in San Francisco's philanthropic community. They gave generously to numerous causes and organizations, supporting everything from stem cell research to performing arts. I extend my deepest condolences to Ray's loving wife Dagmar; his children, Tom and David, and their spouses; and his four grandchildren. Dr. Ray Dolby will be deeply missed, but his legacy of generosity and innovation will live on in the countless lives he touched.●

REMEMBERING ELIZABETH DENEBEIM

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of Elizabeth "Libby" Denebeim, a pillar of the San Francisco community, who passed away on November 15, 2013. She was 83 years old.

Libby was born and raised in the Midwest and graduated from the University of Missouri, where she met the love of her life, Robert Denebeim. After getting married, Libby went on to obtain a master's degree in education and taught elementary school in Tampa, FL, while Robert completed his service in the U.S. Air Force.

In 1956, the couple moved to the San Francisco Bay Area. Libby had always been dedicated to public service, and in San Francisco she became a leader in the community. She worked on behalf of so many agencies and organizations dedicated to improving education, mental health, the arts, and family services, including the San Francisco Board of Education; the San Francisco Mental Health Association; the Mayor's Advisory Council on Families, Children and Youth; the Mayor's Criminal Justice Council; San Francisco Head Start; and Jewish Family and Children's Services.